

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 COME-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 /066 W

----- 019098

O 101644Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2777

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 4154

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: EINV PINS VE

SUBJ: OWENS- ILLINOIS NATIONALIZATION

REF: A STATE 84246, B STATE 86489

1. DCM HAD EXTENDED CONVERSATION WITH VICE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS JORGE GOMEZ MANTELLINI ON SUBJECT AT LATTER'S REQUEST AND TOOK THE OCCASION TO MAKE POINTS IN REF A. GOMEZ MANTELLINI HAD HEARD FROM AMBASSADOR BURELLI RIVAS CONCERNING OUR EXPRESSION OF CONCERN AS PER REF B. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY WORRIED. HE SAID THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD SPOKEN WITH THE PRESIDENT EARLIER AND, AFTER OUR MEETING, HE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD PREPARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR BURELLI. HE TOOK A PHONE CALL FROM BURELLI WHILE THE DCM WAS IN THE OFFICE AND INFORMED HIM THAT INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE ON THE WIRE SHORTLY. HE SAID THAT AT THAT POINT, HE HAD NO IDEA WHAT THE INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE.

2. APPARENTLY, GOMEZ MANTELLINI HAD RECEIVED A RATHER BLEAK REPORT FROM BURELLI PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO US CONGRESSIONAL REACTION, AND IT WAS THIS POINT THAT SEEMED TO BOTHER HIM MOST. WHILE EXPRESSING "SOLIDARITY" WITH THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION ON OWENS-ILLINOIS, HE REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT A WAY MUST BE FOUND
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TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THE VERY PROMISING TRAND OF IMPROVEMENT IN

US-VENEZUELAN RELATIONS CONTINUES. GOMEZ MANTELLINI ALSO
EXPRESSED HIS BELIEF THA THE PRESIDENT WILL WISH TO SPEAK FURTHER
WITH THE AMBASSADOR ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. THE BASIC IMPRESSION RECEIVED WAS THE GOMEZ MANTELLINI WAS
DECIDEDLY UNHAPPY ABOUT THE DECISION AND ITS REPERCUSSIONS IN THE
US BUT WAS SOMEWHAT AT A LOSS AS TO HOW BEST TO RECOUP.
SHLAUDEMAM

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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